

## THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

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UP-TOWN OFFICE, BROAD-STREET PHARMACY, 59 EAST BROAD STREET.

MANCHESTER OFFICE, 1203 BROAD STREET.

FRIDAY.....SEPTEMBER 8, 1899.

CORRESPONDENTS should send us suggestions, predictions, or estimates as to the strength of candidates for the United States senatorship. What we desire is impartial reports of the proceedings of county and city committees, and of other public meetings, and results of primaries or conventions.

RICHMOND AND THE CENSUS.

It is said that a bill will be presented to the next Legislature providing for annexing to Norfolk several of the adjacent towns and villages, and that this will give her a population larger than Richmond's.

Norfolk is right to look out for her interests in this matter, as a sanitary precaution and for other reasons. The United States census will be taken next year, and it is an honorable ambition for the City by the Sea to wish to make as good an appearance in it as possible. We only wish we could arouse the same sort of ambition in the breasts of Richmond people.

With Richmond and Manchester and the suburbs of both united under one municipal government, we suppose our population would be 125,000. But, if we persist in contenting ourselves with our present territory, we are sure to fall in rank in the next census. Our population is steadily growing, but we can't keep up with cities that have acquired the "annexation habit."

We have been asked what good it would do Richmond to rise in rank among American cities. We are willing to allow our commercial travelers to answer that question at length. But we may say that a positive injury is done a city which appears to be losing its position among the great cities of the country. The casual investigator takes no note of the fact that other cities have been grabbing population right and left, while we have had no such access of population, in considerable numbers, since 1887.

These very arguments we made ten years ago. Some interest was then aroused, but public sentiment was not sufficiently unanimous to cause action to be taken.

How is it now?

Is Richmond content to keep dropping and dropping in rank, or will it strive to get its proper position in the census list? What are we going to do about it?

WE SHALL SEE.

Disgust over our treaty with the Sultan of Sulu is widespread and intense. This is made not more manifest by the vigorous reprobation of it by the anti-administration papers than by the gingerly and undecided way in which many of the Imperialist papers discuss it. Taking the far larger part of the press, it reflects a revolt in the public mind—a revolt in great measure due to a sense of humiliation at the whole transaction. But there are one or two administration organs that do discuss the agreement boldly, and we may say, shamelessly, and these do not hesitate to throw out the suggestion that some of the provisions of the treaty are only "temporary."

Considering the celebrity with which the administration has always essayed to break the roll of popular criticism, it is hardly to be doubted that the suggestion of these organs was directly inspired. The logical deduction is that Mr. McKinley and his advisers, having realized that their transactions with the Mohammedan potentate was another stupendous blunder, calculated to increase the unpopularity of the administration in the Philippines policy and work to the detriment of Mr. McKinley's political fortunes, they began to cast about for some way of recovering. But their resource forthwith was a purpose to put us in even a more disgraceful and humiliating position than did our bribery of the Sultan. It ought to prove more injurious to the administration than its original transaction. If the public mind reveals at the treaty itself, what ought to be its operation on recognizing how it is designed to "retrieve" the original blunder?

For our part we question not that the world would be infinitely better off if the Sultan of Sulu and his polygamous crew of freebooters were swept out of existence. But none the less the ending of the name we are playing with them in the manner we are told by Mr. McKinley's special

organs it is proposed to end it would be a hideous piece of treachery and cold-blooded, deliberate treachery at that. It would be equivalent to luring a man into an ambush, under the pretense of cementing a friendship, and then assassinating him. It would be a worse act of treachery than our deception of Aguinaldo.

Of course, there are grave doubts as to the validity of our treaty with the Sultan. Outside of the guarantee, "temporary guarantee," we give as to the soundness of certain Sulu "domestic institutions," the arrangement carries phases which raise the issue, whether Mr. McKinley, in instigating, or conniving at, or permitting the treaty, was not guilty of grosser usurpation than is involved in his Philippines proclamation. But, admitting that there can be a construction of the Constitution that would validate the agreement, the administration would be simply availing the Sulu of usurpation to wind up on the Charybdis of fraud and treachery. In fact, in no event can it escape the latter. In no event can the country escape standing in the light of being a party to a most outrageous fraud, unless the masses rise up and repudiate McKinleyism.

The practical point for the consideration of the people is that the Sulu treaty is the crowning act of the administration in piling humiliation upon us. First came our breach of faith with Aguinaldo and his followers; then the President's bombastic proclamation defining what we were going to accomplish in the Philippines; then an abortive campaign, regarding which the truth was suppressed in the interest of the President's political ambition; then the confession that we had "bitten off more than we could chew," and then the purchase of the Sultan and his gang, which emphasized that confession. Now we have the acknowledgment of premeditation to dishonor our bond.

And these gradations in our humiliation fairly represent the gradations of desperation of the administration, which, from the beginning, staked all on the success of the Philippines war. The old theory that an administration could not be defeated during the progress of a war has been greatly discredited in the case of Mr. McKinley, and the desperate expedient resorted to in the Sulu treaty with the idea that keeping the Sulus quiet would expedite our subjugation of the Philippines is a recognition of the administration's of the extent of this discredit. But the situation should cause the masses to appreciate the great opportunity that is before them to draw a line at the establishment of the prestige of American arms in the Philippines; that is to say, the Sulu treaty and the "interpretation" thereof by the President's immediate organs has taken with the administration's general Philippines policy, made it more than possible for anti-imperialism to carry the Democratic party—the party of the masses—to victory. We must not stop short of pressing the honor of American arms to vindication, now that we are at war, but there is more than the chance of victory in pressing to vindication the honor of the country, which demands that McKinleyism and all who sympathize with it shall pass away and a new order shall regulate the relations of the United States to the Philippines.

With the Democratic leaders organize the forces for a trial of conclusions on the momentous issue, or will they simply accept the theory, now discredited, as we have said, that, come what may, a condition of war is tantamount to a political triumph for the powers that be?

Will they fail to recognize the desperate straits the administration admits that it is in and let imperialism, usurpation, and treachery go by default? We shall see.

Forty of the most famous fighters of Kentucky—the Bakers, Hatfields, and Whites—have joined Company M of the new Thirty-first United States Volunteer Infantry, and will, for a time, transfer their pugacity to efforts to exterminate the Filipinos. The valiant forty have heretofore been engaged in a feud with the Howards, of the Blue-Grass State, but the latter faction, owing to their numbers, and to the efficacy of their arguments, have generally come out first in all the fights. Indeed, a history of this famous vendetta would read like a record of coroners' inquests, embellished by extracts from the catalogue of a gun and pistol manufacturing establishment. It is said that fear induced the Baker faction to join the army—not fear of a little smoke and powder, but fear of absolute extermination. For the benefit of those of their neighbors who dread monotony the two factions promise that, upon their return from the Philippines, they will resume the feud, and do what they can for the local funeral directors.

The Kentuckians do not think much of the Krag-Jorgensen rifles, and say "they ain't nothin'," but when it comes to the Winchester they make the bull's-eye wink every clip. Let the poor Filipinos, whose legs can't run fast enough, the Bakers are coming.

A very valuable old Shakespeare has been secured by Mr. Ross Wiggins, of Baltimore, it appears. It is a single-volume edition of the works of the great dramatist, and is one of the rarest, most interesting, and most costly of the early editions of these works. The American says with respect to it:

"At the auction-house, where the volume was examined, it attracted much attention for the beauty and richness of its binding, the quaint make-up of its many pages, and the awkward, but well-drawn wood-cut illustrations, themselves of rare value, which appear occasionally to portray various situations in the plays. Not the least interesting feature was the many careful bindings, which indicated the great value of the volume wrapped and boxed and bound, which was finally disclosed. In addition to innumerable paper bindings, the book was enclosed in a handsome Morocco leather case, with silver clasps. About this was a wooden box, and still another case was metal, carefully soldered and airtight. A box enclosed in three other boxes, and the outside packing case. The invoice price of the single volume was \$1,500, paid for it by Mr. Wiggins, a final indication of its great value among books."

Hugh McLaughlin, the Democratic leader of Brooklyn, has been subpoenaed to appear before the Maset Investigating Committee next Tuesday and tell what he knows of the Ramapo Water Company, and he said to the server of the subpoena that he would be present at the time indicated, prepared to answer questions.

The largest of ocean liners the Oceanic—last left Liverpool on her maiden voyage across the Atlantic. She is greater than the Great Eastern, and shelters the population of a good-sized town within her decks.

London has had the warmest summer on record there, the extremely hot weather in our Northwest continues, and it promises to be pretty warm in South Africa, before long.

## INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES.

In several counties of this State our party has been divided into factions, each of which claims to be in the right and entitled to be recognized as the only true Simon-pure Democracy.

In every case we hope for the coming of a time when calm counsels and a fraternal spirit will prevail. Perhaps it is too much to expect such a peaceful condition just yet, but much "steam" will have been "let off" in the course of a month or so, and then, certainly, it will be worth while to try to bring the hostile camps together.

The Republicans have thrown out a thinly-disguised bait for independent candidates from our ranks, but in vain will it be dangled before patriotic Democrats who know the history of that party.

There is nothing in the condition of Virginia now to make "independentism" more defensible or desirable than it has been for to these many years, during which our ancient enemy has watched and waited in vain.

There will certainly be a lot of kicking when the allegedly proposed frog-leg combine gets under way.

Another Aguinaldo up in arms—a son of the Philippine leader, born within the last few days.

Among Psalms, it appears, the Eighty-third is Kruger's favorite; among lyrics, the Maudsley.

THE AUDITOR'S POSITION.

WHILING AND ANXIOUS TO PAY THE LABORING MEN OF THE SEWER FORCE.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

The recent action of the Auditor in regard to sewer pay-rolls having figured so largely in the newspapers, I feel constrained to say a few words in explanation of my position.

May 24, 1899, the Mayor approved an ordinance concerning streets, section 5 of which reads as follows:

(9) The Engineer for the city, with the approval of the Committee on Streets, shall hire for the city such number of hands and teams and purchase such materials, tools, and equipment, and such other things as they may deem proper. Any sum or sums of money payable for any such purpose shall be paid out of the City Treasury.

The Auditor stating the amount to be paid for and what given, certified by the Engineer of the city and signed by the chairman of the Committee on Streets, which said committee shall have authority to fix the compensation of said managers of hands and teams.

The Engineer for the city shall designate an assistant engineer in his department, whenever necessary, to superintend and inspect the construction or repair of sewers.

I fall to find authority in the above for the appointment of managers and assistant managers for the sewer force—positions which have been specifically abolished by the Council—and when the voucher was presented I declined to issue a warrant in payment, knowing that the same would be rejected by the Council.

The Council, however, has passed a resolution, which I am sorry to say, is in violation of the charter of the city, and which I am sorry to say, is in violation of the charter of the city, and which I am sorry to say, is in violation of the charter of the city.

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## THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS.

Interesting Educational Notes—The Point of Pines Affair.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., September 7.—(Special).—The new steamship El Norte, the second of the ships completed for the Morgan Line by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry-Dock Company, left the shipyard this morning on her builder's trial trip. She returned this evening after making a most successful run.

El Norte will probably leave on her maiden trip to New York Saturday morning.

SCHOOL NEWS.

The Board of School Trustees met to-night and assigned the teachers to the schools for the session of 1899-1900. Most of the teachers have arrived in the city, and the schools will open on Monday morning.

All three of the buildings are new, and the high and East-end schools will be opened for the first time. It is expected that the school population this year will be considerably larger than last.

The steamship Massapequa, which left Newport News for Boston, Rotterdam, and other ports, has reached her destination with the crew of the bark C. E. McGilvery, which was wrecked off Cape Henry. The Massapequa was blown out of her course, fortunately for the ship's crew, who were given up here as lost.

General Superintendent C. E. Doyle, of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, arrived in the city this morning to inspect the improvement being made to the terminal. He returned to Richmond this afternoon.

W. H. Maher, chief clerk to General Yardmaster E. I. Ford, of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, and Miss Katherine Heffer, of Philadelphia, were married this afternoon at 5 o'clock at the church at Fort Monroe.

LOOKING FOR MR. LYONS.

The officers of Newport News and Elizabeth City are still looking for Mr. John A. Lyons, formerly proprietor and manager of the Point-of-Pines Park, against which the Second Baptist church has inaugurated a crusade. Rev. T. J. McKay swore out four warrants against Lyons yesterday, but when the officers started out to serve them they could not locate the accused. It is stated, authoritatively, that Lyons boarded a train yesterday afternoon at Morrison's for Richmond.

G. C. Governor, the Richmond liquor man, holds an \$80 mortgage on the license, lease, and everything but the land at Point of Pines. There is a rumor that the building at Point of Pines is to be sold, and that Mr. Governor is to be sold for five years. The park is owned by Mr. Lake, of Hampton.

City Treasurer J. M. Curtis this afternoon shipped, through the First National Bank, the \$50,000 bonds, duly signed, to the City of New York. The bonds were to be sold at the market value and the premium.

There is nothing new in the strike situation. White longshoremen are still on strike, and the ships that come here are being unloaded by the Chesapeake and Ohio Steamship Company, Furness, Withy & Co., and the United States Steamship Company. The colored men are doing nothing, apparently. It is known whether or not they have applied to the International association for assistance. If they have the reply has not reached here yet.

The friends of Mr. George Wards, of the machine department at the shipyard, presented him with a solid silver tea service yesterday. He has accepted a government position.

THE SHOOTING OF BERNARD.

Mr. Sheppard Emphatically Explains His Position in the Matter.

GREENVILLE, N. C., September 7.—(Special).—After reading in Tuesday's papers the statements District-Attorney Bernard made relative to the attack on him Saturday night, your correspondent had another interview with Mr. B. S. Sheppard, who gave the following (in publication):

"I do not intend to dignify a man like Bernard with a newspaper controversy, but I will not allow him to create the impression that he is seeking to avoid or evade the truth. He has no right to do so. He has no right to do so. He has no right to do so."

"I solemnly assert, upon the honor of an innocent and injured man, that no human being had any information or information that I intended to attack him, and he knows in his guilty soul that he is mistaken when he says the act was instigated by his political or personal enemies."

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